

Back Issue of Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin': (Bulletin Nov 1953)

Back issues of the Military Postal History Society 'Bulletin' are now available. The issues available span the period from 1937 to 2022. The MPHS is a non-profit organization for philatelists and stamp collectors interested in the collecting and studying of the postal aspects of all wars and military actions of all countries, including soldiers' campaign covers, naval mail, occupation and internment covers, patriotics, propaganda, V-mail, censorship and similar related material.

You are encouraged to join the MPHS to realize the additional benefits of membership. See: <http://militaryphs.org/membership>

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WAR COVER CLUB BULLETIN
Edited by Kevin P. Rogan, R. N.
Napanoch, New York
2 William Street

Vol. VIII

November, 1953

Whole No. 3

Again comes the "Flight of Ideas" your way. This time I hope to get this Bulletin out in the month it's supposed to come out in. Last issue in Sept., I put Vol. VII, Whole No. 6; it should have been Vol. VIII, No. 2. Please correct your files.

Saturday, October 24th, the WCC had a meeting in the offices of Scotts Publishing Company. A goodly crowd was there at different times of the day. Mr. Bartlett showed the group an album of censored covers of all wars that were "put up" very nicely with a separate small map for each cover. Miss Nellie Sergent gave a talk and showed part of her collection on the early history of air mail. The members were surprised to find out that micro film was sent out of besieged Paris in the last half of the 19th Century via Balloon mail. She showed some of this film and a balloon cover along with other interesting covers, prints and historical information. Thanks again!!

Well time out for a "Commercial" and a bottle of Round Rock Root Beer.

W A N T E D

W A N T E D

W A N T E D

NAVAL POSTMARKS 1908 to 1928
Civil War "U. S. Ship" marks
World War II Slogans (Naval)

Cdr. H. F. Rommel, USN, 1922 N. Quincy St. Arlington 7, Va.

Here is a chance to dispose of those "odds and ends" laying around

Now for the long awaited ad from L. E. N. Paul of 1000 Weatherden Ave. Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. He has for sale the following items:

CPS #5500	CANADIAN ARMY WW II COVERS	Oceania #6270
12 DIFF. F. P. O. some with army units @ 1.00		
6 " Censored @ 1.00		1 scarce Labrador @ 2.00
8 " Military Camp P. O. @ 1.00		(With a cash order of \$6 or
40 " " " " @ 4.00		\$7.00 one Labrador Free)

Well away we go again. CIP the "Veep" reports that there are some AAF APO numbers between 1 and 300 that are unaccounted for. Please check your arrivals of the last year or so and let WJ Cippoli of Tillson, N. Y. know of any new ones. These are the unaccounted numbers: 4, 18, 31, 33, 43, 45, 48, 49, 52, 53, 56, 77, 181, 182, 184, 187, 200, 203, 204, 205, 210, 212, 214, 218, 220 thru 224, 228, 229, 244, 246, 247, 249 thru 300 except 264.

G. W. Bartlett got a list of APO's in Great Britain from E. Jagger. Here are the 1953 locations: APO 22, Sculthorpe, Fakenham; APO 120 is Wetherfield; 124 is South Ruislip, Ruislip; 126 is Shepherds Grove, Bury St. Edmunds; 127 is Mildenhall; 129 is Fairford; 147 is Brize-Norton, Oxford; 167 is Greenham Common, Newbury; 179 is Lakerheath; 190 is Molesworth, Bythorn; 191 is Waddington, Lincoln; 192 is Sealand, Chester; 193 is Chicksands, Bedford; 194 is Upper Hayford, Oxford; 195 is Stanstead; 196 is Bushy Park, Richmond; 197 is West Drayton; 198 is Manston, Kent; 199 is Shaftsbury; 202 is Prestwick Ayrshire; 202A is Kirknewton, Midlothian.

232 is Whindon, Wilts; 233 is Colliers End, Ware Herts; 236 is Hatfield Woodhouse; 237 is Cainsborough, Lincs; 240 is Arrington, Royston, Herts; 241 is High Wycomb, Bucks and 242 is Bovington Home Henpstead, Herts.

If you send for any of these please put in for an extra one for your Editor.. O. K? Thanks. I don't have the time any more to keep up on my APO collection.. Speaking of APO's here are some return addresses to send to for APO cancels. They look like ones thru the N. Y. Postmaster.

Hq 66th CIC Gp, APO 154
172d Inf Regt. APO 112
Sub Det. A, 430th CIC Det. APO 541
Hq 7th Army APO 46
Hq 12th Air Force APO 12
41st Radio Sq Mobile APO 69
86th Base Sv Sq 86th Ftr Bmr Wg. APO 65
Hq ASAE, 8620 AAU APO 757
Co M 7811 SCU APO 139
Hq 793d FA Bn APO 46
Hq 2d Armd Div. APO 42
Det D 7812 SCU APO 28
109th Inf Regt APO 111
48th Med Gp. 48th Ftr Bmr Wg. APO 119
Hq USFA APO 168
Det A 7802 BPE APO 69
Hq 28th Inf Div APO 111
Hq VII Corps APO 107
432d Engr Const Bn. APO 227
7050th Air Intel Sv Wg. APO 57
Hq 4th AAA Bn APO 127
10th Trp Carr Sq M 60th Trp Carr Cp (M) APO 57
71st Ord Bn (Main & Supply) APO 46
Hq 81st Ftr Intep Wg. APO 755
Hq 3rd Air Force APO 125
Hq. 66th CIC Gp. APO 154
7054th Air Intel Sv Sq APO 633
Hq 4th Inf Div APO 39
Hq Berlin Comd APO 742
Med Co. 351st Inf Regt. APO 209
7721st RB & L Gq. APO 403-A
Hq USAFE APO 633
7415th Air Base Gp APO 230
Hq 47th Engr C Gp APO 46
Hq 26th Inf Regt APO 1
Hq 192d FA Bn APO 112
Hq USAREUR APO 403
Landsberg Det APO 61
Hq V Corps APO 79
Hq Northern Area Comd APO 757
Hq 18th FA Gp APO 46
Hq ASAE 8620 AAU APO 757
Hq 12th AF APO 12
Hq 7822 SCU APO 407
7966 Hq Gp APO 58

If you send for any of the above corner cards please include your Editor in too.. Thanks.

From Proud in Malaya comes word that there is no Army Postal Service at present in Malaya. A great pity as there are about 8 different nationalities taking part. Incidentally officially there is no war, only an emergency. The guerrillas as far as he knows do not have a postal service. They have couriers. Army, RAF & RAAF in Malaya have however concessional postage rates which apply only to Air Mail letters posted in Malaya and addressed to UK, Australia & Commonwealth USA and British Military Forces everywhere. Rate is 10 Cents for 1st ounce as against 50 cents normal postage. Which reminds me I have to go through a bundle of covers from Proud for exchange.

The German Philatelic Society has invited the WCC to an exhibition of their Club at the Collectors Club on Nov 14th from 2 to 6 PM. Anyone interested contact Dr. George Camitzer, of 308 E. 79th St., NYC, while there.

We have around \$70.00 in the Treasury. Several members have paid their dues in advance for from 3 to 4 years. That is great!!

We need some material to be donated to our auction. Send to Rev. Robinson. Thus we can have some more illustrated Bulletins. Thanks.

Patka reports some new AAF cancels: 40h; 90h (two types); 100h; 1055h; 8m; 20m; 31m; 119m; 234m. He further reports that in Indochina during Feb., Mar. and Apr. some outposts in Vietnam were cut off from all road connections and had to be supplied by the air. The mail was transported by Helicopter and got a small two line rubber stamp, PAR HELICOPTER MILITAIRE / T. O. E. The covers he has are free mail and bear the ordinary French cancel. POSTE AUX ARMEES T. O. E.

-- APO 654 --
"MAILING ADDRESS ONLY" - WW-II

Many covers have been reported found with APO 654 in the return address, and as to date no cancels have been reported bearing this number, with the exception of Mike Baggett's post card which shows as provisional straight line rubber stamp "Dec. 18, 1944, 654" and the notation "Somewhere in Belgium;" another cover found with "HQ. 54th AAA Brigade" and all other items found bearing various types of AAA units in the return addresses, cancelled by various other widely separated APOs which indicates units of the 54th AAA Brigade were active in many areas. Arthur Hill's list of the early APOs in England, recorded mail of 654 was sent to 640 (1BPO) Sutton Coldfield, Eng, while the official records contain only the notation "654 ETO" which indicated the number was active. As all such covers are found bearing RAs of AAA units, we can assume the number was assigned to the 54th AAA Brigade. Through the courtesy of the Chief Historian of the War Dept, the following history will be interesting to the WCC members.

Hq. & Hq. Battery, 54th Antiaircraft Artillery, were activated 1 Dec. 1942 at Camp Haan, Calif, as Hq. & Hq. 54th Coast Artillery Brigade (Antiaircraft). The unit was redesignated 54th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade on 28 Mar 1943. It arrived in England on 9 Dec. 1943 and was in training there until sent to France, where it landed on Omaha Beach 29 July 1944, opening its Hq. at St. Laurent-sur-Mer on 6 Aug. 1944 the Brigade was attached to the Third US Army to set up AAA protection for the port and to follow the Third Army to Brest. During August the Brigade defended several highways, then reverted to attachment to the IX Air Defence Commd. Towards the end of Sept. '44 the Brigade took over the AAA defence of the port of Cherbourg. It was again attached to Third Army and followed the VIII Corps, keeping lines of communications open, with responsibility for both Antiaircraft and ground security. In Oct. the Brigade moved to the Rouen-LeHavre area, where it remained until Feb. 1945, carrying on various training programs. In March the Brigade moved eastward, entering Germany in April '45. It was officially awarded credit for the campaigns of NORTHERN FRANCE, RHINELAND and CENTRAL EUROPE.

Further details concerning the activities of the Brigade and battalions attached to it are not readily available. The above information concerns primarily the Hq. & Hq. Battery of the Brigade and may not be true of the various battalions attached to it. The Hq. & Hq. Battery were finally inactivated on 22 Oct. 1945 at Camp Myles Standish, Mass.

A. J. Tripp

-- NEW MEMBERS --

342	PAUL, J. E. N.	1,000 Weatherdon Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada Selling collection, all kinds of covers.
344	STONE, Lauson H.	41 Garden Pl. Brooklyn 2, N. Y. APOs Scandinavian & Jugoslavia WW-II
345	FIRTICK, John J.	72 Fairfield Pl., Fairfield, Conn. Mil. & Civ. censored; Air sheets & FDs all countries.
346	HAARSTAD, Wm. A.	709 N. Pine St., Santa Ana, Calif. WW-II European Fieldpost covers.

Re-instated:

260	BELLARD, Ernest H.	1940 Staunton Rd., Cleveland Heights 18, Ohio WW-II & II
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27th NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BN.
(SECOND TOUR)

April 16, 1945 Left San Francisco on the CAPE BON, a small Merchant Marine.
April 23 Entered Pearl Harbor, mail from stateside reached them the 24th
April 27 Left Honolulu
May 6 Reached Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Is. Recreation Center on
on Perry Island.
May 9 Left Eniwetok
May 14 Arrived at Ulithi Atoll, built Recreation Building on
Mog Mog I.
May 24 Left Ulithi
May 29 Arrived at Okinawa-waiting orders to debark.
June 3 Landed and camped near town of Kim(40th NCB's located here)
June 10 Moved to North Camp, later called Tippins Camps, on Ora Wan
(Bay) near the village of Ginusa. One detachment went south
to Yonabaru to construct a military road. The Seabee PO hut
also housed from 4 to 6 censors.
August, 1945 All personnel aged 42 and over (40) were returned to the U. S.
soon after the first A-Bomb was dropped at Hiroshima, Aug.
6th. About this time Camp Tippins was being dismantled,
orders having been received to move to a new site 15 miles
to the south.

The history is incomplete, the author one of the 40 returned to the U.S.
Personnel of the 45th. Seabees who seen service in Alaska are included in
in this group.

THE SO-CALLED "DUNKIRK STAMPS"

By Dmitry Kandaourow

From the date of the occupation, June 4, 1940 until 9, inclusive, postal service was suspended between the northern departments of France and the other departments, except for commercial correspondence. By order of the German commandant in Dunkirk, Lieut. von Werner, the surcharge "Besetztes Gebiet Nordfrankreich" (Occupied Territory North France) was applied to French stamps on July 1, and postal service limited to post cards and letters of not more than 20 gr. functioned in the Dunkirk-Hazabrouk arrondissement. The surcharged stamps were sold under the usual conditions. Furthermore, surcharged stamps affixed to mail dropped in letter boxes and for delivery within the arrondissement were surcharged before being cancelled. Any valid stamp could be surcharged. When normal postal service was reestablished in the entire occupied zone this surcharge became useless. Consequently, after August 10 it was no longer applied to any mail. The frame of the overprint applied in the main Dunkirk post office has rounded upper corners. There is a clean break in this frame in the upper right corner. Often the letter "b" of "Gebiet" is partly or entirely missing. This resulted from bad inking and uneven pressure applied to the rubber handstamp where the "b" was slightly recessed to begin with. The surcharged was applied horizontally and vertically, the latter being less frequent. The entire stock of stamps of a small post office, totaling about 3,000 francs, was sold without authority in mint condition for philatelic use. Postage due stamps were not surcharged. A few covers are known with postage due collected upon delivery because of insufficient postage.

The Above was translated by Member C. D. Brenner.

300 HIGGINS, Albert H.	7 University Place, New York 3, N. Y. Stamps & covers-Aden; Gold Coast; Palestine; Br. Somaliland; Bermuda; incl. APOs & FPOs.
181 HURDIS, Mrs. Elsie C.	109 Smithfield Rd., No. Providence 4, R. I. US & For. censored; APOs; Navy & Pats.
65 HURLBURT, A. K.	4837 Cadieux Rd., Apt. 6, Detroit 24, Mich. Free; APOs; V-Mail; V-Mail sheets.
246 JAGGER, Eugene	10 Kings Rd., Cheadly Hulme, Stockport, Eng.
291 JENSEN, Charles A.	Ketilsvej 73, Bagsvaerd, Denmark. Exchange covers.
106 JONES, Mrs. Stephen W.	4325 Erie Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio WW-II - US censored
343 KANDAOUROW, Dm. D.	27 Rue des Martyrs, Paris IXe France. WW-II and all RED CROSS
299 KERSHAW, Robert S.	521 Spicer Ave., Akron, Ohio. WW-II APO; Naval; Pats; & camps.
323 KEYS, Everel	14742 Center Ave., Harvey Ill. Free French covers.
29 KLINGER J. Paul	31 Hastings Ave., Havertown, Penna.
282 KOOR, Miss Jean G.	972 Sherman Ave., New York 56, N. Y.
303 KRUK, John F.	234 Main St., So. Deerfield, Mass. Censored covers; Photo V-Mails
210 LANGER, Robert A.	70 Fairmont Ave., Glenbrook, Conn. Overseas Army covers WW-II
331 LASKEY, Charles S.	162-05 89th Ave., Jamaica 32, N. Y. Gen. all wars and war affected postal hist.
136 LEACH, Rev. Floyd S.	80 Highland Ave., Rowayton, Conn. All wars
217 LEMPONEN, Carl T.	976 Broad St., Conneaut, Ohio Borderless AM & V-Mail WW-II; Spec. WW-I
328 LEWANDOWSKI, A. E.	845 Intervale Ave., Apt. 11, New York 59, N. Y. WW-II only
333 LOHR, Joseph J.	1447 Minford Pl., New York 60, N. Y. All wars; Spec. POW; Religious; Music; Boy Scout.
270 MAJOR, Richard M.	PO Box 2074, Arlington 4, Va. APOs; Korean; Austro-Hungarian; FPOs
137 MARTIN, George M.	216 So. 28th Ave., Yakima, Wash. WW-I & II, all types censored
81 MIKUCKI, Chester J.	1844 N. Winchester Ave., Chicago 22, Ill. Occupied Poland WW-I & II.
306 MINICK, Lt. Col. Don C.	2109 F St., Washington 7, D. C.
185 MITCHELL, Miss Myrtle	500 S Market St., Winamac, Ind. WW-II APOs and Camps.
266 MOLNAR, Charles J.	1246 Summit Drive, Cleveland 24, Ohio. Pat, cards & covers Span-Amer war & WW-II Propaganda leaflets WW-I & II
6 MONTGOMERY, Wm. H.	3235 Hull Ave., New York 67, N. Y. AEF and stationery of war.
56 MORGAN, Maj. Ian C.	22 Holton Ave., Westmont 6, P. Q. Canada Bermuda, Canada & British covers.
326 NICHOLSON, A. L.	PM. Macon, N. C. Korean war covers
321 PATKA, Frederic	Lerchenfelderstrasse 70-72/1/6, Wien 6, Austria
342 PAUL, J. E. N.	1000 Weatherdon Ave., Winnipeg Man. Canada.
110 PERKINS, John M.	5-05 125th St., College Point 56, N. Y. WW-I & II

WAR COVER CLUB MEMBERSHIP LIST
OCTOBER 1953

252 AINSBURG, Maurice G. Sr. 38 Seaman Ave. Castleton-on-Hudson, N. Y.
Any censored.

90 BAGGETT, M. R. 1516 N. McDowell St.; Charlotte 5, N. C.
All wars.

189 BAKER, Philip E. 4 Dartmouth St. Apt. 39, Forest Hills, L. I. 75, NY
WW-I & II APOs; Marine: Naval; Shore Bases

320 BARTLETT, G. W. 34 Edgewood Rd. Glen Ridge, N. J.
Censored covers.

57 BARTLEY, D. C. 6035 8th Ave. N-E, Seattle 5, Wash.
Naval Postmarks

318 BENNETTS, L. C. 29 Rose St., Bendigo, Victoria, Australia.
Civ. & Mil. covers, New Guinea & nearby Is.

310 BLACKBURN, Lane, Jr. RD #2, Washington, Penna.
WW-I & II China & H ong Kong.

46 BRENNER, C. D. 5 Montrose Rd., Berkeley 7, Calif.
All U. S. Wars.

239 BROCK, Fred C, MD 600 S. Reese Place, Burbank, Calif.
WW-II and other wars

102 BURR, David H. 25 N. Main St., Gloversville, N. Y.

317 BURRELL, Mrs. Harold P. Seagate Rd. Noroton, Conn.
Korean War.

52 CASE, Wm. O. Pleasant Valley, Conn.
World War covers.

211 CIPOLLI, W. J. Tillson, N. Y.
WW-I & II APO; FPO; POW; Naval.

285 CLEMENT, Alfred Heinrichstr 27/1, Fraz, Austria
War covers of all countries.

200 COLE, A. C. 4589 N. High St., Columbus 14, Ohio
All types of wer covers & censored.

338 CROWELL, Harvey V. R. 1039 Horth St., Pittsfield, Mass.
WW-I covers and posters.

91 CUMMINGS, Eugene P. 1106 Glen Drive, San Leandro, Calif.
U. S. all wars.

235 CUTRESS, George P. 19 Hillside Grove, Chelmsford, Essex, England.
US Naval from Adm. Byrd/ Artic & Artic Expd;
Barex; US in Greenland; B.W.I. & Pacific Is.

172 DICKEL, John C. 6711 Souder St., Philadelphia 24, Penna.
All types of war covers.

335 EDWARDS, Maj. David J. Med. Co. 351st Inf. APO 209 c/o PM-NY.
US submarines; WW-II censored items.

138 FAULSTICH, Fred .90 W. Burnside Ave., New York 53, N. Y.
All US; Boer War; General

296 GILL, Rowland P. 1909 2nd St. N-E, Washington 2, D. C.
All US wars; Br. Empire; Latin Amer & P. I.

341 GORDON, Robert S. Bos 145, Northfield, Vt.
General

17 GRANDY, Winfred M. 98 Harrison St., New Haven-15, Conn.
Specialty - War Naval covers.

7 GRAY, Miss Eva 16 Knowles Ave., Saugus, Mass.
WW-I general.

302 Hare, H. J. 20 Wilmar Gardens, West Wickham, Kent, England
US APOs and other wars.

332 HAYWARD, Benjamin M. 38 Liberty St., Montpelier, Vt.
V-Mail; Spec. printed in G. B. For US forces.

31 HERTZBERG, B. 554 Merritt Ave., Oakland 10, Calif.

30 HERTZBERG, M. 294 Fairmont Ave., Oakland 11, Calif.

25 PERRY, Dr. A. E.	314 State St., Albany 6, N. Y.
165 POWERS, Simon P.	125 Bon View, Ontario, Calif.
	WW-I & II
330 PROUD, Edward B.	c/o Perak Hydro. Batu Gajah, Perak, Fed. of Malaya
	Br. Empire FPO; Naval; RAF; Spec, Boer War.
337 REING, Herbert S.	1595 Park Place, Brooklyn 33, N. Y.
	AF covers, US & For; AM cachets & slogans spec.
336 RICHARDS, Tommy	1229 Wilson Ave., Columbus 6, Ohio
	All US wars; Spec. Civil & Korean wars.
340 RITZ, John G.	1432 Bryan Ave. "W, Canton 6, Ohio
	Pat. covers WW-II & V-E & V-J Days.
273 ROBBS, Peter H.	Grendon, Northampton, England
	Aerial propaganda leaflets
2 ROBINSON, Herbert K.	315 Mulry Lane, Lawrence, N. Y.
	All wars, censored, APOs, Naval & ect
283 ROGAN, Kevin P. R. N.	2 William St., Napanoch, N. Y.
	WW-II US Armed Forces
339 ROMMEL, USN. CDR. H. F.	1922 N. Quincy St., Arlington 7, Va.
	Naval PM.
274 RUSSELL, James	2209 Brighton St., Philadelphia 24, Penna.
	APOs; Naval & V-Mail
224 RYAN, Francis W.	649 9th Ave., New York 36, N. Y.
	WW-II - APOs
32 SANFORD, Hennen M.	1975 Hampton Rd., Rocky River 16, Ohio
	WW-I & II general.
269 SCHULTZE, George J.	6138 Lawndale St., Philadelphia 11, Penna.
	V-Mail all types, First Days.
287 SERGENT, Miss Nellie B.	435 W. 119th St., New York 27, N. Y.
	Greeting cards from service men.
203 SHELLHAMER, Robert H.	5938 Walnut St., Pittsburgh 32, Penna.
	Spec. Spanish-American War material.
294 SMITH, Peter A. S.	116 N. State St., Ann Arbor, Mich.
	19th Cent. & all wars, Spec. Mediterranean area.
304 SPAIN, C. W.	3301 Wiscasset Rd., Dearborn, Mich.
	Canadian; WW-II; Censored & RPO covers.
322 STEWART, Francis J.	2 Maple Ave., Montclair, N. J.
	APOs & Naval Korean Area.
334 STEWART, Mrs. Lester F.	710 South Main St., Normal, Ill.
	WW-II covers.
264 STROUSE, Earl H.	Not Active at present time.
308 TAYLOR, Sterling S.	9612 Fremont Ave., Seattle 3, Wash.
	PCW, APO, EAF.
41 TRIPP, Almon J.	16533 Mendota Ave., Detroit 21, Mich.
	Early Alsk; C. Z. & Hawaii APOs.
171 TUTTLE, Col. Lowell H.	1178 Virginia Way, La Jolla, Calif.
	APOs
180 UHRIG, Carl S.	20 South Church St., Pittsfield, Mass.
	Censored, entire world, WW-II only.
228 VACURA, Capt. Harold J.	7650 HQ. HQ & Serv. Co. APO 541 c/o PM-N. Y.
	APOs
314 WALTERS, C. T.	Loombah, Cumnock, N-S-W. Australia
220 WETTACH, George H.	17-20 Well Drive, Fair Lawn, N. J.
	WW-II covers:
242 WHEAT, J. C.	2222 Groveland Rd., Bay City, Mich.
	Censor markings, all wars.
247 WILLINGER, Isadore	314 E. 163rd St., New York 56, N. Y.
	APOs.
213 WILLSON, Thomas E.	123 Sherman Pl., South Orange, N. J.
	APOs, Army camps, Navy Shore Bases.

Errors Found In The NAVY SHORE BASE POST OFFICE LIST

87 N. S. W.; 214 Port Layutey; 409 Cayo Frances; 419 Torquay
512 Grand Cayman; 720 Columbia; 819 Deptford; 3108 Kudat
3122 Aurapushekaru; 3244 Rongelap; 3252 Peleliu; 3420 Otaru
3700 Ponape; 3923 Yokosuku; 3960 Lingayau. (Dash indicates errors)

By this time I have assumed the average cover fan was familiar with COURIER MAIL, the ARMY MANUAL OF THE APO -, pages 56 thru 59.

The function of the Army Courier Service is the safe and speedy transmission of secret and confidential official communications --
The courier system maintains a chain of receipts for each communication accepted, from the time it is placed in the custody of the courier service until delivery to the addressee --
Courier service is established between the War Dept. and the headquarters of separate theaters of operations, groups of armies, armies, corps and divisions --
Courier Transfer Officers will be stationed at all ports of embarkation and debarkation, at control points of Air Transport Command; Naval Air Transport Service and commercial airfields --
Courier Transfer Officers will be held strictly accountable for the safe and speedy handling of courier pouches at their control points --
Procure passenger lists from the above air units, and to select from these lists officer passengers to act as couriers. --
Courier Transfer Officers and Officer-Couriers will exchange receipts at intermediate and terminal points on forms provided for that purpose.
(Excerpts from the manual. Such mail often stamped "Safe Hand Courier" and all such mail was classed top priority in dispatch)

Willinger's article - How would one put a "small steel square" (slug) in a rubber cancel ?? Is there a steel handstamp of 601 or 605 ?
Sta. #14 ATC Central African Wing - abbreviated - Sta. #14 ATC - C. AF. W.
later
Army Air Force Base Unit #1203 Cent. Africa Div. (C. AF. D.).

I don't believe 601 APU used its cancel - if there was such Unit. I have never recd. any reports other than Willinger's cover. The official date of the first US forces in Liberia was on May 6, 1942, perhaps Air Corps Engrs. working on the landing field. APOs were not assigned to such bases which did not have a large personnel, this base located between 2 nearby ATC points-Accra & Dakar-was an alternate route, planes from Brazil to Ascension I. bound for E Africa & India went via Accra, short route. I now believe 601 was a "shelf number" and 605 needed a new cancel, a careless clerk failed to cut out the 601. Now take a look at this reference- I have checked one 601 cancel -

Ret. Address / US Bomber Command. APO 3197
Cancel / 601 dated May 3, 1943. This indicates the cancel was in use at some date. The North African Campaign was over with May 10, 1943, the 3197 indicates a POE number - perhaps by Bomb. unit bound for India. 601 reminds me of 888 - plans were made, then changed after several covers recd. a new cancel, found several covers with good strikes, "PO 7", they originated in Australia - it may of been 704 - but no proof.

UNITED STATES MILITARY POSTMARKS USED DURING U. S. OCCUPATION OF THE
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, CUBA, AND PORTO RICO, 1898-1905

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

As a result of the Spanish-American War, the first U. S. Occupation forces landed near Cavite on July 21, 1898. Military Post Offices were soon established as branches of the San Francisco, Cal. post office. The first office was at Cavite, July 30, 1898. 6 Military Postal Stations were numbered and located as follows:

#1, Manila, #2, Cavite, #3, Iloilo, #4, Cebu, #5, Bacolod, #6, Malolos. The following towns were also locations of Military Postal Stations although not numbered: Angeles, Aparri, Bongao, Cotlabato, Dagupan, Jolo, Malabang, San Fernando, Siassi, Sorsogon, Vigan, and Zamboanga. Some of these towns used military postmarks while others used ordinary town cancels. Cavite, Cebu, and Iloilo also used ordinary town postmarks after 1900 while still under military control. Other military postmarks are: Dagupan & Manila R. P. O., Camp Jossman, Camp Marahui, and Camp Vicars. These military stations reverted to civil post office status by 1905, exact dates are not known.

Types of postmarks, tentative designation. (Note-all circular unless stated, dates in center, first line is wording in upper part of circle reading clockwise, second line is wording in lower part of circle reading counter-clockwise, size of circle in millimeters, color black but red and purple exist on some, SHS is steel handstamp, RHS is rubber handstamp.) Following are exact wording of known postmarks. More than one town used some of these types, the name of the town and number is the only difference.

Type 1	Philippine Station San Francisco, Cal.	33mm double circle, stars at side, early type.	RHS
Type 2	Mil. Sta. No. 1 Manila	Philippine Islands - grid	30mm, 12 bar fat oval SHS
Type 3	Mil P. Sta. No. 1 Manila, P. I.	3 very short bars	30mm, RHS
Type 4	Mil. Sta. No. 1 San Francisco, Cal.	Philippine Isls. RHS	32mm, double circle RHS
Type 5	Mil. Sta. No. 1 Phil. Isld	Manila SHS, yeardate outside circle	26 mm, 6 bar grid No. 1 in center SHS, yeardate outside circle
Type 6	Mil. Sta. No. 1 Rec'd.	Manila, Phil. Islds	about 30mm, SHS
Type 7	Mil. Sta. No. 1 Registered	Philippine Isls. circle	about 34mm, double circle RHS
Type 8	Dagupan & Manila R. P. O	9 bar grid, 29mm North or South in center with date	SHS
Type 9	Mil. Sta. No. 1 Manila, P. I. Mar. 22, 1899 GEneral Delivery	Straight line,	46X25mm RHS

Type 10	Military Sta. No. 2, Cavite Philippine Islands.	Straight line, p8rple, 47X8 mm, RHS
Type 11	Mil. Sta. No. 3, San Fran. Cal. Iloilo, Phil Isls.	25 mm, 11 bar grid, year date outside circle, SHS
Type 12	Mil. Sta. No. 3, Philippine Islands Iloilo.	29mm, SHS
Type 13	Cebu P.I.	29mm, SHS, 8 bar grid, town example.
Type 14	Cavite Cavite, P. I.	30mm, 9 bar grid, town example, SHS

Especially desired are covers or illustrations of postmarks from Angeles, Bacolod, Malolos, Siassi, Vigan, Zamboanga, and the 3 Camps listed.

CUBA

U. S. Occupation forces landed in Cuba at Santiago on July 25, 1898. Military Post Offices were established as branches of the New York, N. Y., post office. The first office was at Daiquiri on June 23, 1898, evidently used by an advance party. 39 numbers Military Post Offices were established with numbers and locations as follows:

#1	Santiago de Cuba	#14	Songo	#27	Matanzas
#2	Daiquiri	#15	Pinar del Rio	#28	Santa Clara
#3	Guantanamo	#16	Guanajay	#29	Placentas
#4	Baracoa	#17	Maribel	#30	Santa Cruz
#5	San Luis	#18	Trinidad	#31	Santo Domingo
#6	Manzanillo	#19	Las Tanas	#32	Jucaro
#7	Gibora	#20	Sancti Spiritus	#33	Sagua la Grande
#8	Holquin	#21	Cardinas	#34	Caribarien
#9	Sagua de Tanamo	#22	Bayamo	#35	Batabano
#10	Havana	#23	Mayari	#36	Colon
#11	Puerto Principe	#24	Palma Soriano	#37	Surgidero de Batabano
#12	Neuvas	#25	Cristo	#38	Guines
#13	Cienfuegos	#26	Buena Vista	#39	Union de Reyes

Types of postmarks (same note as under Philippine Islands)

Type 1	Mil. Sta. Jan. 24, 99 Havana Cuba	4 straight lines within 30mm circle 9 bar grid, SHS
Type 2	Military Sta. 1 Santiago de Cuba	25mm, 6 bar grid, No. 1 in center yeardate outside circle, SHS

Type 3	United States Post Office Military Station No. 1, Cuba	straight line, 65X13,mm, RHS, purple
Type 4	Military Sta. No. 4 () Baracoa (straight lines) May 9 (within circle) Cuba () N.Y.P.O.	26mm. large 11 bar grid, yeardate outside circle, SHS
Type 5	Mil. P. Sta. No. 20 Sancti Spiritus, Cuba	30 mm, 3 narrow spaced bars RHS
Type 6	Mil. P. Sta. No. 27 Matanzas, Cuba	35 mm, RHS
Type 7	Mil P. Station No. 30 Santa Cruz, Cuba	30 mm, 3 narrow spaced very short bars, RHS
Type 8	Mil P. Sta. No. 37 Surgidero de Batabano, Cuba	double circle, about 30mm, 3 short bars, RHS
Type 9	Havana Cuba	27mm, 9 bar grid, SHS town example
Type 10	Santiago Cuba	28mm, 6 bar grid, No. in center, yeardate outside circle, SHS town example
Type 11	Columbia Barrocks Havana, Cuba	26mm, SHS 6 bar grid No. 1 in center

Various town cancels were also used from above towns while still under military control. Exact dates when Military stations ceased to operate are not known, Spanish type postmarks were used to cancel military mail for the short while in 1898. Santiago de Cuba is known, other towns most likely exist.

In 1918, U. S. forces again were stationed in Cuba. Locations and information are not available at present. A small steel handstamp postmark is known reading "7 Reg. U. S. M. C. May 28, 1918" with an indistinct grid appearing to have "Santiago, Cuba" in circle portion of killer. Also a 32mm RHS reading "U. S. Receiving Ship at Guantanamo Bay" Sept. 21, 1918, with 4 bars is known. Who knows more details on these or other types?

PORTO RICO

The first U. S. Occupation troops arrived July 25, 1898. Military Post Offices were soon established with the first one at Ponce on Aug. 3, 1898. Twenty-one Military Stations are believed to have been opened, 8 with numbers as follows: #1, Ponce; #2, Guayama; #3, Mayaguez; #4, San Juan; #5, Coamo; #6, Utuado; #7, Yauco; #8, Juan Diaz. Further information as to where the remainder of these stations were located is desired. Evidently ordinary town postmarks were used from them. These stations were branches of Washington, D. C.

Types of postmarks (same note as under Philippine Islands.)

Type 1	M. Sta. No. 1 Porto Rico Aug. 8 98	4 straight lines within 29mm circle, 6 bar oval grid with No. 1 in center, SHS
Type 2	Military Sta. 1 Porto Rico, Wash. D. C.	26 mm, 6 bar oval grid, No. 1 in center, yeardate outside circle, SHS
Type 3	Mayaguez, Porto Rico Mil. Sta. No. 3	25mm, 6 bar oval grid, No. 1 in center, yeardate outside circle, SHS
Type 4	Mil. Sta. No. 4, W. D. C. San Juan, Porto Rico	25mm, 6 bar oval grid, No. 1 in center, yeardate outside circle, SHS
Type 5	Mil. Sta. No. 4, W.D.C. San Juan, Porto Rico Rec'd	reading clockwise except Rec'd. 28mm, SHS
Type 6	Humacao Sta. Porto Rico	25mm, 6 bar grid, No. 1 in center, yeardate outside circle, SHS. town example.

The above listing is a record of known postmarks and data. It is not intended to be fully accurate or complete. New information, omissions, revisions, and additions are requested. New types and towns must exist. New material is desired to be submitted to the author, actual covers, postmarks on piece of cover, photographs of same, or tracings with full information so as to make a complete and correct record. A future illustrated booklet is contemplated, containing all above and new data along with material on rates, collect letters with Postage Due, various Frankings, and use of normal and over print stamps.

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